



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor

P5276b

Michihiro Nagaishi, et al. Group Art Unit:

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Herewith

Title:

Document Categorizing Method, Document Categorizing

Apparatus, And Storage Medium On Which A Document

Categorization Program Is Stored

CERTIFICATION UNDER 37 CFR 1.10

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I hereby certify that the attached transmittal letter and the documents referred to as enclosed therein are being deposited with the United States Postal Service in an envelope as "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 2023-

Dated: February 2, 2001

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Preliminary to examination please amend the above identified application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION

On page 32, line 9, change "can know" to --to know--.

On page 35, line 7, change "into which clusters and see the degrees" to -into which other clusters and the degrees--.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend Claims 3-11 and 13 as follows:

3. (Amended) A document categorizing method according to Claim 1, wherein said cluster merging process is performed such that [in what] the manner in which feature elements, which characterize respective clusters under consideration as to whether they should be merged or not, appear in [the] said respective clusters under consideration is examined, and cluster merging is performed in accordance with the manner in which the feature elements appear.